

burden exists in searching the entire application.

Further, MPEP §803 states as follows:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

Applicants submit that a search of all claims would not constitute a serious burden on the Office.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants contend that the Restriction Requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,  
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Jean-Paul Lavalleye.  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No.: 31,451

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 45,518



22850

Tel.: 703-413-3000  
Fax: 703-413-3220